

Appln. No. 10/826,013

Attorney Docket No. 10541-1991
V203-0314**III. Remarks**

By this paper, Applicants are amending claims 7 and 20. Therefore, after entering this amendment, claims 1-23 are currently pending.

Reconsideration and further examination of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is therefore respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of claims 1-6.

Amendments to the Specification

Paragraph [0023] has been amended to include the following sentences: "Furthermore, the wave-shaped surface defines a generally smooth path along the sinusoidal function 56, thereby creating a generally smooth feel for the user during rotation of the knob assembly 10. More specifically, the wave-shaped surface includes generally arcuate waves to create the smooth feel." Figure 2 in the original application as filed discloses the generally arcuate nature of the wave-shaped surface of the knob assembly 10 and therefore no new matter is added. Furthermore, a "wave" is commonly defined as a "shape or outline having successive curves" and therefore the smooth, arcuate nature of the wave-shaped surface was also disclosed in Paragraph [0023] of the original application as filed. (*Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 10th Edition, p. 1332*).

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner rejected claims 7-14, 16, 17, 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Senoh et al. (US 4,539,444).

With respect to claims 7-14, 17, and 19, amended claim 7 recites that the adjustment member has a generally wave-shaped surface extending continuously along a circular path and having a plurality of *generally equally-spaced* peaks.

Senoh fails to disclose an adjustment member having a having a plurality of generally equally-spaced peaks as recited in claim 7. Even if the term "peak" in claim 7 encompasses the surface 26 in *Senoh*, the portions of the surface 26 are not generally equally-spaced from each other and along a generally circular, continuous

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path. More specifically, the portions of the surface 26 are separated from each other by cam lands 27 having varying sizes and positions. (*Senoh*, Figure 12, col. 4, line 26-57).

Therefore, claim 7 as amended is not anticipated by *Senoh*. Furthermore, claims 6-19, which depend from claim 7, are not anticipated by *Senoh*.

With respect to claim 20, amended claim 20 recites a second end portion of the knob defining a generally smooth wave-shaped surface extending continuously along a circular path. As discussed above, Figure 2 and Paragraph [0023] of the original application as filed disclose the generally smooth wave-shaped surface and therefore no new matter is being added.

Senoh fails to disclose a wave-shaped surface as recited in claim 20. Due to the flat surfaces defining the surface 26 and the cam lands 27, and the transitions therebetween being generally equal to 90 degrees, the rotatable driver 25 does not include a generally smooth wave-shaped surface along even a portion of the circular path.

Therefore, claim 20 as amended is not anticipated by *Senoh*. Furthermore, claims 20-23, which depend from claim 20, are not anticipated by *Senoh*.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 15 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Senoh* (US 4,539,444).

Claim 15 depends from claim 7 and claim 21 depends from claim 20. Therefore, for at least the reasons described above, claims 15 and 21 are patentable over *Senoh*.

The Examiner rejected claims 18, 22 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Senoh* (US 4,539,444) in view of *Rose* (US 4,551,587).

Claim 18 depends from claim 7 and claims 22 and 23 depends from claim 20. Therefore, for at least the reasons described above, claims 18, 22 and 23 are likewise patentable.

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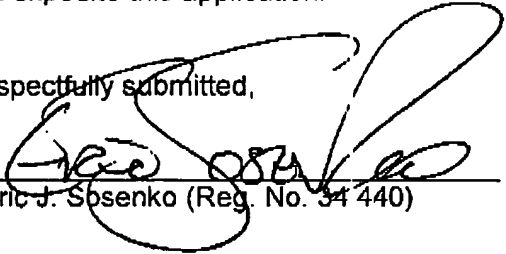
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V203-0314**Conclusion**

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present form of the claims are patentably distinguishable over the art of record and that this application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney for the Applicants via telephone number (734) 302-6000, if such communication would expedite this application.

Respectfully submitted,

December 1, 2005

Date


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